

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rep. Gary Hayzlett at 1:35 p.m. on January 18, 2000 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Vaughn Flora, excused
Representative Don Myers, excused

Committee staff present:

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor
Hank Avila, Legislative Research
Ellie Luthye, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Kenneth McNeill, ABATE
Steve Christenberry, SMART

Others attending:

Chairman Hayzlett welcomed the committee and announced Rep. Phill Kline was a new member of the committee this year, replacing Rep. Cindy Hermes.

The Chair opened the floor for bill introductions. Representative Johnston made a motion to introduce a bill which would require vehicles to change to the opposite lane when passing a stopped emergency vehicle and would impose a \$60 fine for failure to do so. This was seconded by Representative Long and the motion carried.

Representative Flower made a motion to introduce a bill which would make a person guilty of a class B misdemeanor, upon conviction, if they intentionally provide false information relating to the mental or physical condition of an applicant when applying for a driver's license. This was seconded by Representative Johnston and the motion carried.

Kenneth McNeill, ABATE, requested consideration of a bill which would remove the motorcycle rider education program from the Department of Education to the Transportation Department. He then called on Steve Christenberry, SMART, to explain their proposal. Mr. Christenberry stated the Legislature established a motorcycle rider training program in the state in 1980 and housed the program in the Department of Education where it has not experienced the direction and leadership necessary to provide comprehensive motorcycle rider education. Current law requires school districts or community colleges to administer the training programs after approval from the State Board of Education. Since the expenses outweigh the benefits there are few incentives to offer the program and the local schools choose to not make this part of their curriculum. He continued that implementing a state wide program would expand the program and would make it accessible to all individuals but would require increased funding, however, this program is funded by motorcyclists and the proposed increase would also be paid for by motorcyclists. He then presented a program that has worked effectively in 45 other states, as well as in the United States Armed Forces. (Attachment 1) Representative Ballou made a motion to introduce this proposal, seconded by Representative Huff and the motion carried.

Bruce Kinzie, Revisor, proposed a clean up bill which would clarify a 1998 law concerning the width of bales of hay on vehicles. Representative Larkin made a motion to introduce this bill, seconded by Representative Ballou and the motion carried.

Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m. The next meeting of the House Transportation Committee will be Wednesday, January 19, 2000 in Room 519-S.